



# Otter Class Newsletter

25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November

Dear Otter Class Families,

Firstly, you will notice this is coming to you on Monday rather than Friday. I had said a while ago that I was going to do this, but it felt odd to go against the school norm of sending newsletters on Fridays. However, as there has been some confusion around homework, I will do my best to send them on a Monday from now on, with details of the homework for that week.

## **Our Learning:**

Last week was assessment week and all the children coped with it really well. It's a tough week, 6 papers to complete (which also means 180 for me to mark!) but it's such a good way to see exactly where the children are with their reading comprehension, spelling, grammar and maths.

## **Homework:**

I didn't get to update the website last week with the homework information. I have therefore said that we won't be marking until later in the week (probably Thursday) so anyone who didn't do it can catch up. For reference, the homework was maths pages 18 and 19, and reading pages 26 and 27.

Having said that, I have spoken to all the children today about taking a proactive approach to their learning. The homework tasks are up in the classroom all week so there are lots of opportunities to note down what needs to be done (lots of children add the date to the top of that page in their homework books). I also always ask the children to at least look at their homework early in the week, even if they don't complete it then. Not only does it give them chance to come and see me if they don't understand something, it also gives them chance to realise that they haven't got their book or don't know which page to do!

Primary school is said to be "laying the foundations of education" and this isn't only true for the learning but also the behaviours. We want all of the children to be ready for high school, just like pre-schools help to get toddlers "school-ready". That means the children need to start becoming independent and taking responsibility for themselves where they can. I will therefore aim to send the newsletter with the homework on each week and update the website, however, there are going to be times where this may not be possible. Homework will always be displayed in the classroom and children will be expected to make a note of this, in time to complete it before it's due.

## Homework for this week is:

Maths – pages 20 and 21

Grammar – pages 32 and 33

### **Reminders:**

Tomorrow is "my personal best day"! All children need to wear PE kit, which is appropriate for outdoor PE. We strongly recommend a spare pair of socks and shoes (even if that's school shoes for the rest of the day) as the field will likely be damp.

Jewellery and make-up should not be worn in school. Earrings must not be dangly and need to be taken out for PE.

All items should be named so that they can be returned to you quickly. If things are handed down/passed on, please make sure the correct name is in the item to avoid confusion.

### **Finally...**

Don't forget our reading challenge! Stamps for:

Completed quizzes, with a score of 80% or above,

Reading at home 3 times for at least 10 minutes each time,

Completing one of the activities in the back of the reading record,

Completing at least 10 minutes of our "bonus" reading challenge.

The children came up with suggestions for strange/different ways to read and these have been written on a dice. Last week, the challenge was to read out loud to yourself. This week, the challenge is to read in the bath/bathroom (sorry!)? I have reiterated to the children, I am not suggesting they go home and take over the bathroom all evening, claiming that "Mrs Moore told us"! If they want to do the bonus challenge, then when it's convenient, they could read in the bath or just in the bathroom. It's just meant to be a light-hearted way to get them wanting to open a book at home.

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember, you can catch me on the playground for a quick chat or you can email [otter@hinghamprimary.org.uk](mailto:otter@hinghamprimary.org.uk)

Mrs Moore